

The Hindu creation story

Before time began there was no _____, no heaven, no space, nothing. The waves of a vast, dark _____ lapped on the edge of this nothingness and a giant _____ floated on the waters. Lying asleep in the snake's coils was lord _____.

The snake kept him safe and he slept peacefully.

Slowly, a sound started, _____.

It grew louder and filled the emptiness. It throbbed with energy and drove the emptiness away. Lord Vishnu woke up and a magnificent _____ grew from his navel. Right in the middle of the flower sat _____. Lord Vishnu told Brahma to set to work and create a world.

Still sitting in the flower, Brahma calmed the wind, stilled the waves and brought _____. Brahma split the lotus flower making three different parts: the heavens, the earth and the sky. To start with the earth was _____ so Brahma created grass, flowers, trees and plants. He let living things evolve so that the earth became full of animals, birds and fish.

Hindus have many ways of thinking about God. They say there is one God but use different _____ when he does different thing. When God creates he is called - _____. When he looks after the creation he is called Vishnu. As lord Shiva he will _____ the universe.

bare destroy names Brahma Brahma peace ocean Earth cobra
"om" Vishnu lotus flower

1. How many Gods do Hindus believe in?
2. How is this different to Christianity?
3. How do Hindus believe that the world will end?

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Slowly, a sound started, "**om**".

It grew louder and filled the emptiness. It throbbed with energy and drove the emptiness away. Lord Vishnu woke up and a magnificent **lotus flower** grew from his navel. Right in the middle of the flower sat **Brahma**. Lord Vishnu told Brahma to set to work and create a world.

Still sitting in the flower, Brahma calmed the wind, stilled the waves and brought **peace**. Brahma split the lotus flower making three different parts: the heavens, the earth and the sky. To start with the earth was **bare** so Brahma created grass, flowers, trees and plants. He let living things evolve so that the earth became full of animals, birds and fish.

Hindus have many ways of thinking about God. They say there is one God but use different **names** when he does different thing. When God creates he is called **Brahma**. When he looks after the creation he is called Vishnu. As lord Shiva he will **destroy** the universe.